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December 2023

Looking Back at a Successful 2023

It's the time of the year when we look back and take account. As of this writing, we are currently at **116% of our goal**, have saved over 1.9M kWh, and provided just over \$1M in incentives to our mutual customers!

We sincerely appreciate the work our contractors do in our program. This all happens because of you and our partnership. We look forward to 2024 and continuing to build and improve that partnership to provide more energy savings for our mutual customers. Thank you!

Winter Safety Moment

During the holidays, the potential for thefts and robberies increases. More people are out and about, and they are carrying more money than during other times of the year. Here are a few safety tips to keep in mind:



- Lock personal property in the trunk of the car if you cannot take it with you. Do not leave items such as your purse, electronics, laptops, or cell phones in view.
- Carry your valuables sensibly. Do not keep cash in your wallet. Instead, keep it in an inside pocket and only carry the credit cards you'll need.
- If you must leave packages in your car, put them in the trunk. Keep receipts with you.

If you are returning to do more shopping, move your vehicle to a different location in the parking lot before returning inside. Suspects watch for people to place merchandise in their trunks and walk away.

- If someone makes you suspicious or uncomfortable, notify security or call the police.
- Do not keep a wallet, credit cards, or cash in a backpack.
- If you are in a crowd, consider carrying the backpack in front of you. Pickpockets can quickly and easily remove items from a backpack without being noticed by the owner.

Remind your family, friends, and coworkers to NEVER go near a downed power line!

2023 Lake Stevens Energy Efficiency Pilot:



This pilot ends on December 31, 2023. Residential projects will need to include a copy of the signed bid on or before this date to qualify for the increased rebate. Projects must be submitted by June 30, 2024, to qualify (delayed date due to window project backlogs).

Projects must have a signed bid by December 31, 2023, and completed by June 30, 2024.

Reminders:

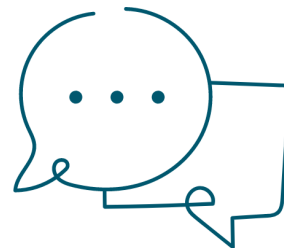
HSPF2/SEER2 Guidance

All systems must meet the new requirements for those installed beginning January 1, 2024.

- Eligible systems for the \$1,800 rebate under HSPF2
 - ≥ 7.5 HSPF2 and ≥ 14.3 SEER
 - Can be single, two-stage, or inverter-driven
- Eligible systems for the \$2,500 rebate under HSPF2
 - 8.5 HSPF2 and ≥ 14.3 SEER
 - Required to be inverter-driven

Request a PUD Refresher Training

The PUD Trade Ally team has been hosting "refresher-trainings" for Trade Allies with new staff or those that might have questions about the new applications and workbooks. If this would benefit your staff, **please reach out using the contact info below**. These "refresher-trainings" run about 90 minutes or less depending on the questions.



2024 Program Updates:

2024 Minimum Job Requirements

The minimum number of projects to stay in the program for 2024 is now two projects completed and paid. Contractors not meeting this requirement will be removed from the program for 2025.

2024 Program Changes

New workbooks will be available on January 1. Please submit all projects completed in 2024 in the most recent versions. Changes include:

- Weatherization and Heating: **the PDI increases by \$25.00** (Weatherization is now \$125/application and heating is now \$175/application).
- The **rebate for a ducted, conversion HP** with a minimum HSPF2 of 7.5/SEER 14.3 **will now receive \$1,800.**
- We will now provide a \$200.00 rebate for advanced smart thermostats. To qualify it must be listed on BPA's Smart Thermostat Qualified Products List. To receive the rebate the make and model number must be listed on the invoice along with credit for \$200.00.
- Nest and ecobee thermostats will no longer be a disqualifying reason for project payment. We prefer a thermostat with the ability to read the outside temperature onsite but do not want to hinder a customer's choice since these are recognized by BPA.

Contractor Roundtable with WA State Department of Commerce on Inflation Reduction Act:



This roundtable will have happened by the time this newsletter reaches your inbox, but we wanted to offer an opportunity to respond by email with input and answers to the questions below. Please copy and paste into an email to jfpetosa@snopud.com and we will forward your answers to the Washington State Department of Commerce.

You may be aware that in addition to robust tax credits for energy efficiency upgrades, the Inflation Reduction Act also has funds available for home energy efficiency rebates and whole-home programs. We've been communicating with the Department of Commerce (DOC) to discuss their intended program design.

To help ease administrative burden and maximize utility funding in partnership, we've been sharing info about current programs that could be enhanced by these opportunities. Additionally, we have offered to host a virtual round table for contractors to offer perspective on how to best deliver this funding from the standpoint of contractors already implementing similar upgrades.

This is your **opportunity to provide input** on how these funds may best be implemented to support your work and customers. We value the work and input of contractors who work in our programs, which is why we offered to coordinate this meeting. We look forward to hearing what you have to say!

Questions for Input

- What are the greatest opportunities for residential energy projects?
- What technology are you seeing a lot of interest in from customers?
- What would make it easy and exciting for you to participate in this program?
- Have there been times you had the opportunity to participate in a utility or local rebate program but you chose not to?
- Have you read much about the IRA rebate programs? What questions do you have?

Input from Weatherization Installers (Homes)

What questions or concerns do you have about:

- Home energy audits
- Equipment/materials availability
- Workforce availability
- Serving low-income households
- Serving rural customers
- The IRA rebate program in general

Input from HVAC and Other High-Efficiency Equipment Installers (IRA & State)

What questions or concerns do you have about:

- Equipment availability (must be ENERGY STAR Certified)
- Heat pumps for home heating
- Heat pump water heaters
- Electric (including induction) cooktop, stove, range, oven
- Heat pump clothes dryers
- Electric supply components
- HVAC considerations in Eastern vs. western Washington
- Workforce availability
- Serving low-income households
- Serving rural customers
- The IRA rebate program in general

Contact Info

- **Trade Ally Questions**
 - PUDTradeAlly@snopud.com
 - John Petosa
 - jfpetosa@snopud.com
 - (425) 783-8254 (desk)
 - (425) 530-6603
- **Program Questions**
 - John Petosa
 - jfpetosa@snopud.com
- **Technical Questions or Support**
 - Call an Energy Advisor at (425) 229-5598

- ce@snopud.com (non-urgent)
- **Rebate Application Questions and Submittals**
 - ce@snopud.com

If you have any questions about:
Eligibility ...Equipment...Specifications...Sizing Calculator
CALL BEFORE YOU INSTALL: 425-229-5598!

Thank you for your work in 2023. Wishing you and your loved ones the happiest of holiday seasons! We look forward to working with you in 2024.



Snohomish County PUD | 2320 California Street, Everett, WA 98201

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